

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.

I, CHARLES CARTER RITICOR of the town of Catlands in the State of Virginia being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do hereby make, declare, ordain and publish this to be my Last Will and Testament hereby revoking all prior wills by me made.

FIRST:- It is my will that my executor hereinafter named pay all my just debts and funeral expenses as soon after my death as may be convenient.

SECOND:- I give, devise and bequeath all property, real, personal and mixed of which I may die seized to my brothers Robert A Ritcor and John T Ritcor to be divided equally between them, share and share alike.

In case of the death of either one of my said brothers, then the share of such deceased brother to go to the survivor.

THIRD:- I hereby make, constitute and appoint Edward McFarland, Cashier of the Loudoun National Bank, the executor of this, my Last Will and Testament.

Witness my hand and seal this 19 day of April, A.D. 1918.

Charles C. Ritcor

The foregoing instrument was on the date thereof made published and declared by Charles Carter Ritcor to be his Last Will and Testament who in our presence did sign the same, and we in his presence and in the presence of each other do hereby affix our signatures, as witnesses.

J. R. McClellan OF *U. S. Army*

Peter W. Ebbert OF *U. S. Army*

James T. Dougherty OF *1st Lt. 58th I.R.C. Kankakee, Ill.*

Clerk of the Circuit Court - Gary M. Clemens

Historic Records

Volume 2 Issue 2 April 2017

Land Records & Deed Research

Loudoun is one of only a few counties in the Commonwealth that has records dating from its formation in 1757 when it split from Fairfax County. The Historic Records and Deed Research division includes court records from 1757-1980's and land records from 1757-present. Research can be conducted by using both in-house and online databases as well as paper indexes. Our staff can provide guidance and suggestions to start your research but **cannot provide research services or legal advice**. To prepare for your visit please review our online links to indexes and county databases which provide a starting point in your records research.

If you Visit the Archives

There is a court order that establishes court security protocols that serve the best interests of all visitors to the various courts and court-related offices in the Courts Complex. Therefore, electronic mobile devices such as cellphones with cameras, laptop computers, and electronic tablets are currently not permitted in the Courts Complex. To assist the patrons of the Historic Records/Archives research room, the Clerk's Office provides computer workstations with internet access so our patrons can review the websites of other historic records museums and historic records research organizations to assist with research needs in the Clerk's Office.



The Clerk of the Circuit Court is proud to partner with the Virginia World War I and World War II Commemoration Commission.



Lt. Charles C. Riticor grave at Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, Lorraine, France.

Front Cover

The Will of Lt. Charles C. Riticor, April 19, 1918

Charles Riticor was born in 1892 in Oatlands, Loudoun County Virginia and was a graduate of Washington Lee University. Commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in February 1918, he joined the 58th Inf. Regiment and was sent to France. Prior to being shipped out, he made out his will that was witnessed by three members of the U.S. Army. On August 6, 1918, he was wounded by shrapnel and gassed on the western front. Lt. Riticor died of his wounds on September 29, 1918 and is buried at Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in Lorraine, France.



“Little Gems”

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THE MANAGER'S ORDER BOOK:

BY ERIC LARSON, HISTORIC RECORDS MANAGER

MUSTER ROLL *Loudoun* COUNTY, VIRGINIA

	NAME	ADDRESS	AGE	COLOR	SELECTED SERVICE	VOLUNTEERS ABOUT BATT AND HOME COM.
117	Aycock, Charles J.	Round Hill		Wh	A	
118	Wright, William W.	Haycock Ferry		"	"	
123	Wright, James H.	Mountable		"	"	
124	White, Samuel J.	Leesburg		Bl	"	
125	Ward, Alfred	Leesburg		"	"	
276	Walter, John H.	Beltsville		"	"	
341	Warner, Oscar	Buena Vista		"	"	
548	Wright, George	Hamilton		"	"	
640	Wright, Charles P.	Parrotville		Wh	"	
640	White, Arthur	Hydelsburg		"	"	A
1014	White, Benjamin H.	Leesburg		"	"	
555	Warner, Albert E.	Leesburg		"	A	
716	Wynkoop, J. William	Leesburg		"	"	
783	Wright, Howard A.	Parrotville		"	"	
1125	Wright, Howard A.	Parrotville		"	"	
1165	Wright, George C.	Parrotville		"	"	AL
1239	Williams, John H.	Leesburg		"	"	
1267	Ward, John H.	Leesburg		"	"	
1274	Williamson, J. C.	Parrotville		"	"	
1559	Wright, J. William	Parrotville		"	"	
767	Whiting, John F.	Leesburg		Bl	"	
559	Ward, Charles R.	Leesburg		"	"	
657	Ward, Charles R.	Leesburg		"	"	
715	Ward, William	Parrotville		"	"	
1033	Ward, John	Parrotville		"	"	
1079	Ward, William	Parrotville		"	"	
1096	Williams, William	Parrotville		"	"	
1237	Washington, J. H.	Leesburg		"	"	
1258	Ward, John E.	Parrotville		Wh	"	
126	Williams, John	Parrotville		"	"	
1487	Ward, George	Parrotville		Bl	"	
1487	White, William	Parrotville		Bl	"	
125	Ward, William	Parrotville		"	"	
1463	Ward, William	Parrotville		Wh	"	
749	Williams, William	Parrotville		"	"	
1849	White, Elmer D.	Leesburg		"	"	

W Page from the Muster Roll in the War with Germany

Welcome to the Spring Edition of "Little Gems", the World War I Edition. One hundred years ago on April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on the German Austro-Hungarian Empires. The United States' participation in the war would begin a transformation in America's agriculture, industry, banking, transportation sectors, and especially its future role in world affairs.

This edition of "Little Gems" is dedicated to the role Loudoun County and its citizens played in the "war to end all wars." This issue covers a variety of topics on the war's impact on soldiers and citizens on the home and battle fronts. Besides articles by our staff, this issue also includes articles from the General George C. Marshall House and the Fairfax Clerk of Circuit Court Historic Records Center.

On April 7, 2017, The Centennial Committee and the Clerk of the Circuit Court are sponsoring an open house in the 1894 courthouse entitled *Over There: The Great War in Loudoun's Memory*. The open house will feature World War I displays by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 293, Thomas Balch Library, Fairfax Clerk of Circuit Court Historic Records Center, George C. Marshall House, Loudoun's Clerk of Circuit Court Historic Records and Oatlands Historic House and Gardens.

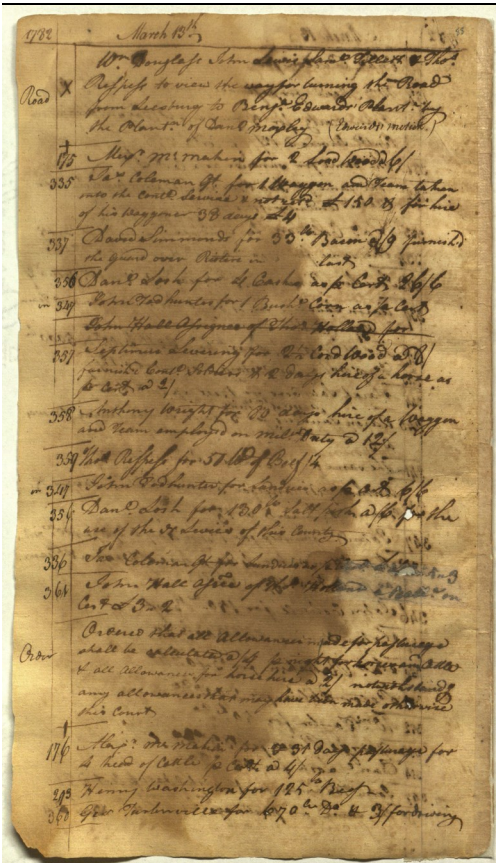
To commemorate the war's centennial, the Clerk of the Circuit Court Historic Records Division has created a [World War I Webpage](#) that provides more information on Loudoun's contribution to the war effort, including links to information about the history of the war and home front.

Black History Month Overview

On Feb 11, 2017, Historic Records and other historic sites in Loudoun County, had the opportunity to give a special tour to 16 social studies teachers from Loudoun County Public Schools. Teachers were provided a history of the courthouse, grounds and tour of the court archives. Our Feb 11th Black History open house had 122 visitors who viewed African American court documents from Loudoun and Fairfax's Clerk of Circuit Court. Loudoun's Department of Building and Development displayed artifacts and the history of two slave quarters' sites in Loudoun. Historic Records ended Black History month by giving a presentation at Loudoun's first Black History Expo sponsored by the Loudoun Freedom Center.



Article on Historic Records-[Black History Month Program](#)



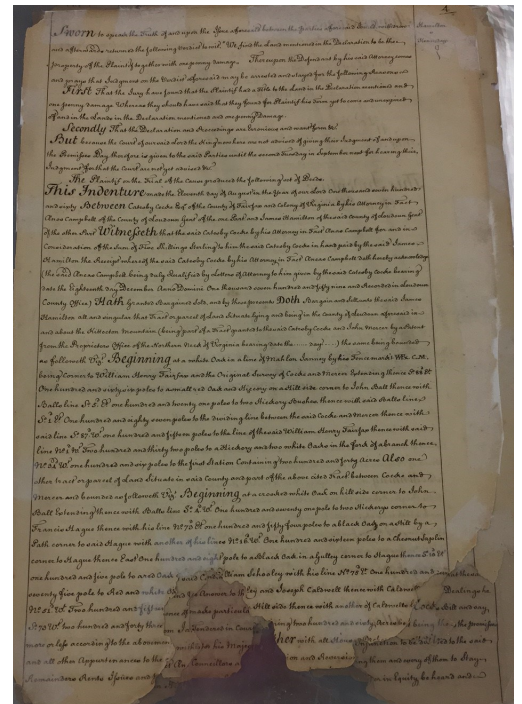
DAR Ketoclin Chapter Donates \$1,000 to Historic Records

The Ketoclin Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) has partnered with the Loudoun County Circuit Court Historic Records and Deed Research Division to preserve the 1780-1782 Rough Minute Book from the American Revolution. This book contains hundreds of names of Loudoun men who served in the Continental Army, state militia, and county citizens collecting payment for goods and services provided to the war effort. The Rough Minute Book will provide prospective members access to information that will support their membership into the NSDAR. The \$1,000 donation will conserve the book through deacidification and encapsulating the pages in Mylar sleeves. It will then be bound in a post binder. Conservation will be performed by Kofile Technologies of Greensboro North Carolina. The Rough Minute Book will be on exhibit at our June 2, 2017 preservation open house.

Page 88 from the 1780-1782 Rough Minute Book

Historic Records Receives a Library of Virginia Grant

In January 2017, the Clerk of the Circuit Court received a \$1,733 grant from the Library of Virginia's [Circuit Court Records Preservation Program \(CCRP\)](#). This grant will conserve our Land Causes 1757-1773 book and the 1764-1765 Rough Minute Book. Both books will go through the deacidification process and the pages will be encapsulated in Mylar and placed in a post binder. Once the conservation is completed, the books will be available to the public for the first time. Conservation should be completed by the end of 2017.



Page from the 1757-1773 Land Causes Book

“Little Gems”: A Moment of Reflection By: Sarah Markel

As I walk to work each morning I pass the monuments on the Court House lawn dedicated to those brave soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms. This morning I realized that in this fast paced time we live in we do not always stop to fully appreciate what these monuments mean. For this edition of “Little Gems” I was inspired by the monuments to take the time to read the names listed there and reflect on the lives of these men. What was their story? Did they have families of their own, were they brothers or uncles, or maybe an only child? What had their experiences been like? Where had they traveled? What legacy had they passed on? The next time you are in downtown Leesburg I hope you take a moment to really look at the monuments and reflect on the lives of these men.

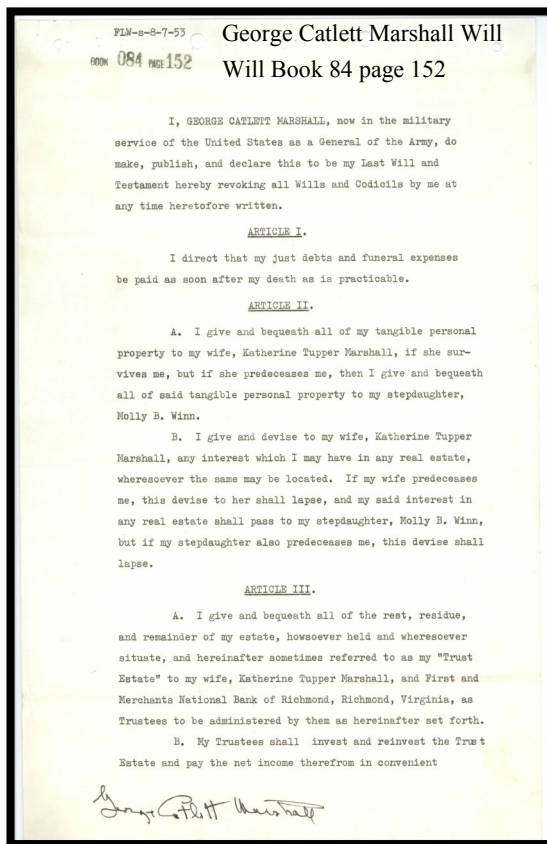


Do you know the difference?

Memorial Day - A day on which those who died in active military service are remembered, traditionally observed on May 30 but now officially observed on the last Monday in May.

Veterans Day- This day is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice, which ended the World War I hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany in 1918. Veterans are thanked for their services to the United States on Veterans Day.

George C. Marshall Service's in the Great War By Cody Youngblood, Marshall House Docent



George C. Marshall, five-star general, Army Chief of Staff, and Secretary of State, lived in Leesburg, Virginia for close to twenty years. His work on the Marshall Plan earned him international acclaim and made him a local celebrity in Northern Virginia's small town of only 1,600 residents.

A humble and self-effacing man, Marshall's military career spanned the course of two World Wars. His trademark leadership skills helped Marshall rise above to the position of Army Chief of Staff on September 1, 1939, the same day World War II broke out. Before such a promotion, a young Major Marshall was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division as the director of training and planning with the American Expeditionary Forces (AEF). In this capacity he planned the first American attack and victory of the war at Cantigny in 1918. By mid-1918, he was posted to the headquarters of the AEF, where he worked closely with his mentor, General John J. Pershing.

General headquarters of the AEF was located in Chaumont, a commune in the Northeast part of France. Complete with offices and barracks; the Caserne Damremont held commanders that directed the activities of more than two million soldiers from 1917 to 1919. From its halls, major battles such as the Second Battle of the Marne and the Battle of Cantigny were commanded.

But just three miles away, nestled between two babbling creeks, sat a large but quiet chateau. Designed by Edmé Bouchardon in the 18th century, the Chateau Val des Ecoliers was home to General John Pershing during his time at Chaumont. Sometime during the war, an aerial photograph was taken of the chateau. This photograph, which will be on display on First Friday, was kept by Marshall on display in his study. Today, the photo is still on display in its original position.

The photo was probably kept by Marshall until his death forty years later out of love for his good friend, Pershing. The two corresponded throughout the First and Second World War until Pershing's death in 1948. In some aspects, Marshall reflected Pershing's character throughout his life. To his biographer, Marshall said of Pershing: "He had no hesitation of receiving advice from me or others...it was one of his great strengths that he could listen..."

After the artillery fire had seized its barrage and after machine guns no longer echoed through the valley of Chaumont, the AEF left General Headquarters. Today, the barracks are still used by the French army. Pershing's chateau, still standing between two babbling creeks, is now in private hands.

"And in -Flew-Enza"; 1918 Flu Pandemic in Virginia by Eric Larson

*I had a little bird,
And its name was Enza.
I opened the window
And in-flew-enza*

(1918 Children's Rhyme to skipping rope)

Born on December 20, 1900 in Rockville Maryland, Levi William Beaner, an African American from Hillsboro, Virginia, was drafted in the summer of 1918. Just days before the influenza pandemic outbreak that would kill more Americans at home than US soldiers killed in World War I, Levi reported for service at Camp Lee Virginia (Fort Lee).

Located east of Petersburg, Virginia, Camp Lee began as a US Army mobilization camp shortly after America's entry into World War I in April 1917. By the fall 1917, the camp was designated as a US Army training base for soldiers going to Europe. When construction was finally completed, the camp could accommodate over 60,000 soldiers. At its war time peak, Camp Lee was the third largest population center in Virginia behind Richmond and Norfolk.

In early September 1918, the naval base and ship yards in Norfolk, Virginia, along with other naval bases and ship yards along the east coast, began reporting a deadly influenza outbreak. The source of the outbreak was returning soldiers, sailors, and merchant marines from Europe. This was the beginning of the second and deadliest round of the influenza pandemic. The first influenza outbreak having occurred in early 1918 at Camp Funston and Fort Riley Kansas Army bases. Medical professionals debate if this was the virus that was carried by American servicemen to Europe. But this is just one of three major theories on the flu's origins. The second flu outbreak quickly spread outside of Norfolk to Fort Lee, and the City of Richmond. By early September 1918, the first flu cases were documented at Fort Lee.

"On Friday, the 13th of September the first cases of influenza were admitted to this hospital starting the epidemic of the most extensive character that has ever visited Camp Lee. It began abruptly and in a few days reached tremendous proportions subsiding after about six weeks, during which time it had affected 12,000 men and killed about 700." (U.S Army Medical Department, Office of Medical History, Extracts from Reports Relative to Influenza, Pneumonia and Respiratory Diseases)

Barely into his training, Levi Beaner became one of the first cases of influenza at Fort Lee.

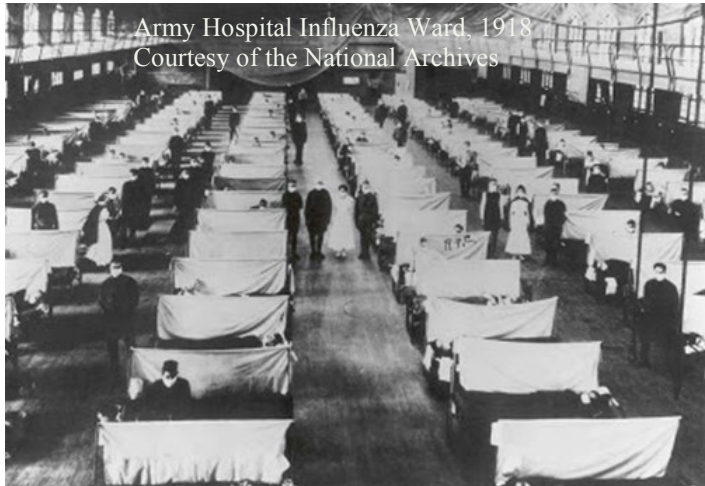
"He at one time was in the hospital between the living and dead with the flu. His sister and brother was called to his bed side." (Beaner, Levi W, WW I Questioners, Sketches of Service Loudoun County Soldiers, Library of Virginia)

*10.
Levi Beaner
Hillsboro Va
Registered in August 1918 and was
called to Camp Lee Sept 1, 1918
He at one time was in the Hospital
between the living and dead with
the flu. His sister and Brother
was called to his bed side
But he pulled through and was
on his way to Newport News to
start for France when the armistice
was signed He to was discharged
and arrived home in January 1919*

Levi Beaner's questioner from the Library of Virginia

With no drugs or vaccines (The first flu vaccine was not developed until the 1940s), and the lack of knowledge of what caused it, doctors, health officials and patients like Levi Beaner were helpless in combating the flu. Civilian and military hospitals were quickly overwhelmed by a lack of beds and medical staff. Over 80 barracks at Fort Lee were used to house the flu inflicted soldiers.

By the first week of October 1918, thousands of cases were reported throughout Virginia, and over 2,000 in Richmond. On the recommendations of state health officials, all public gatherings were banned, movie houses, theaters, and schools were closed and the state fair in Richmond was canceled. By the end of the year, Richmond reported 20,841 cases and 946 deaths.



Army Hospital Influenza Ward, 1918
Courtesy of the National Archives

The 1918 death rate of 508 per 100,000 from influenza in Richmond was higher than most Midwestern and Southern cities, but lower than cities along the East coast. (Influenza Encyclopedia, The American Influenza Epidemic of 1918-1919, Richmond, Virginia)

Five hundred million people were infected worldwide, and 50-100 million people died during the pandemic. In the United States, at least 28% of all Americans were infected, and over 675,000 lost their lives. In mid-October 1918, over 41,000 Americans died of Influenza. Virginia reported over 200,000 cases with 11,352 dying of influenza and 2,140 dying from pneumonia out of a total 44,083 deaths reported

in 1918. In Loudoun County, the number of deaths from influenza and pneumonia was 108 out of 354 reported deaths. (Barker, Stephanie Forrest, "The impact of the 1918-1919 influenza epidemic on Virginia," Master's Theses, University of Richmond, 2002)

In the final 1918 issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the magazine stated:

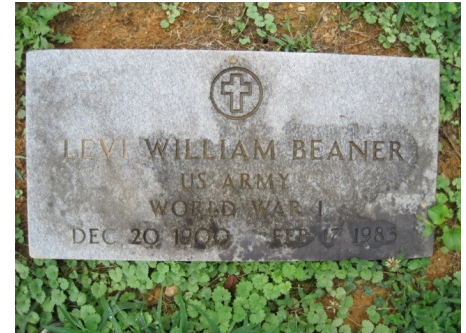
"Medical science for four and one-half years devoted itself to putting men on the firing line and keeping them there. Now it must turn with its whole might to combating the greatest enemy of all--infectious disease,"

Levi Beaner survived the influenza and the war and was discharged from the Army in 1919.

"But he pulled through and was on his way to Newport News to start to France when the armistice was signed. He too was discharged and arrived home in January 1919." (Beaner, Levi W, WW I Questioners, Sketches of Service Loudoun County Soldiers, Library of Virginia)

Levi returned to Loudoun where he lived in Round Hill and eventually Leesburg, and worked at Woodgrove Farm. He was married 38 years to Ella Mallory Beaner and was a member of the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses at Clarks Gap. Levi passed away on February 17, 1983 at the age of 82. (Beaner, Levi W., Obituary Loudoun Times-Mirror February 24, 1983)

1918 was not the last of the influenza outbreaks, and the deadly flu continued into the 1920s. By the early 1930s, doctors finally discovered that the influenza virus attacked and weakened the lungs which led to pneumonia. The last great discovery, was in 2008 when medical researchers discovered how genetic mutations of the virus turned the flu into a pandemic.



Levi William Beaner's grave at Grace Annex United Methodist Church Cemetery, Purcellville, Virginia

Barker, Stephanie Forrest, "[The impact of the 1918-1919 influenza epidemic on Virginia](#)", Master's Theses, University of Richmond, 2002

Beaner, Levi W., Obituary Loudoun Times-Mirror February 24, 1983

Beaner, Levi W, [WW I Questioners, Sketches of Service Loudoun County Soldiers, Library of Virginia](#)

Influenza Encyclopedia, [The American Influenza Epidemic of 1918-1919](#)

Influenza Encyclopedia, [The American Influenza Epidemic of 1918-1919, Richmond, Virginia](#)

History Channel, [1918 Flu-Pandemic](#)

Stanford University, [The Influenza Pandemic of 1918](#)

U.S Army Medical Department, Office of Medical History, [Extracts from Reports Relative to Influenza, Pneumonia and Respiratory Diseases](#)

World War I And The Loudoun County Homefront: Experiences Of Local Soldiers As Found In Chancery Suits

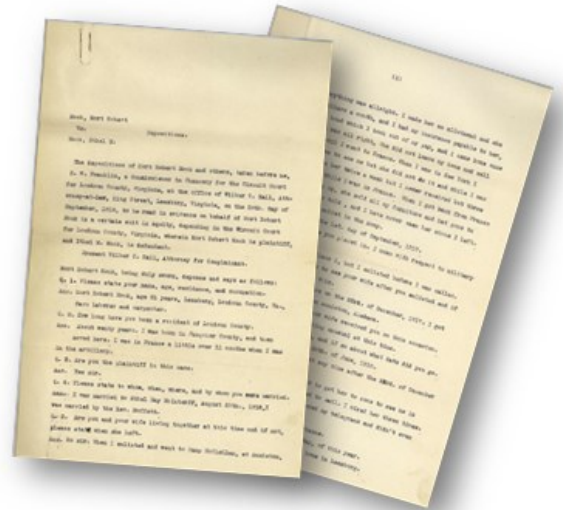
By Alyssa Fisher

Historic Records and Deed Research is fortunate to have a *Muster Roll in the War with Germany* that provides a list of individuals from Loudoun who fought in the First World War. While this register includes a listing of those individuals' names, towns, race, muster date, and often their branch of service, additional information can be found in chancery suits. Chancery suits include court proceedings for the division of property and divorces. Most chancery suits that mention World War I military service are divorce cases. Chancery suits usually include a bill, stating the purpose of the suit, a final decree, explaining the result of the suit, and depositions which include questions asked by lawyers and answered by individuals who have useful information for the case. Additional documents in chancery suits include answers, other decrees, exhibits, subpoenas, and notes or bills. References to service in the military are mostly found in the bills and depositions. Chancery suits can provide details regarding an individual's entry into military service, their training camp locations, and family issues during and after the war.

While the *Muster Roll in the War with Germany* usually includes the date of muster, it does not specify more personal expressions of the individual's entrance into service. Several of the chancery suits reference drafts. Harry C. Brown "responded to the Draft Law, and answered the 'Call of His Country' by joining the Army" on October 30, 1917. Basil A. Brown "answered the call of his country and entered military service in the war with Germany," as "a member of [the] 318 Infy. Headquarters Co. 80th Division." Other individuals decided to enlist before they were drafted. Mort Robert Mock's chancery suit stated "that feeling it his patriotic duty to answer the call to arms in defence [sic] of his country, he enlisted in the heavy artillery of the U.S. Army, on the 1st day of September, 1917." In his deposition, Mock explained, "I was placed in Class 1, but I enlisted before I was called." His reference to Class 1, refers to the classification of men's eligibility for the draft under the Selective Service Act of 1917. Mock made sure that the record showed he chose to enlist before he was drafted.¹

Other details about military service found in chancery suits include information about training camps, and events leading up to the shipment of soldiers overseas. A deposition of J.R.H. Alexander provides a description of the draft and transport of soldiers from Loudoun to camps for training. Alexander served as a member of the Local Draft Board where a man named Raymond Jenkins "was drafted in a contingent of seventy-two men, which were sent away from here on the 25th of May." Alexander explained that as a member of the Board, he went to the train station when the men departed "for the purpose of attending to their transportation and entrainment." That train took soldiers from Leesburg to Washington D.C. Many records indicate which camp each individual went to for training before being sent to Europe. Dr. Ralph Mortimer Thompson "left for Camp Lee on the first draft and soon was commissioned a first lieutenant at Camp Greenleaf." Mort Robert Mock "was sent to Camp McClellan, at Anniston, Alabama." While at Camp McClellan, Mock got leave to come home on December 23, 1917. He was then ordered to set sail for France out of New York.²

Almost all of the records referencing World War I military service discuss time spent in France. Some men spent anywhere from eleven months to a year and a half overseas. Mock "went overseas on the 29th day



Deposition from Mock vs. Mock Loudoun County Chancery Suit 1919-045

¹ Harry C. Brown vs. Erminta T. Brown, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1923-039; Basil A. Brown vs. Zula May Brown, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1922-016; Mort Robert Mock vs. Ethel M. Mock, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1919-045; *Selective Service Regulations* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1918) 41-62, 349-373.

² Mort Robert Mock vs. Ethel M. Mock, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1919-045; *Selective Service Regulations* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1918) 284; Minnie B. Thompson vs. Ralph M. Thompson, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1938-037.

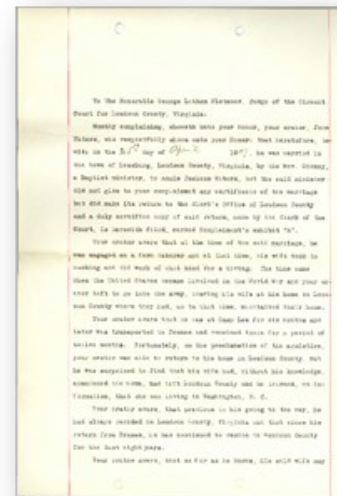
of June, 1918," where "he served for about eleven months in France and returned to this country on the 21st day of May, 1919." Cornelius A. Costley "went away to camp and was there three months and sailed for France in March, 1918." John Waters "was at Camp Lee for six months and later was transported to France and remained there for a period of twelve months." Other individuals had a different experience entirely. John Windsor explained he "was drafted in Aug. 1918, but didn't go over to Europe." He remained "in camp at Spartansburg, South Carolina, and a little while at Edgewood, near Baltimore, Md., during the war," until his discharge in January of 1919.³

Chancery suits can also provide information regarding the support spouses received while the men were away at war. Passed on October 6, 1917, the War-Risk Insurance Act provided financial provisions for the families of soldiers. This act included financial support while the soldier was at war, in case of injury, and in case of death. The Annual Report of the Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance from 1920 stated:

Congress felt that the drafting into the military service of the country did not withdraw the legal and moral obligation of every man to contribute to the support of his family; therefore the provision was made for the payment of allotments with Government allowances to dependent relatives of enlisted men under certain stipulations. Congress had in mind, undoubtedly, the pension complication resulting from previous wars, and wished, if possible, to lay the foundation of a structure which would avoid a repetition of this condition.⁴

In order to provide financial support for their families, soldiers had to make allotments out of their own pay, and apply for allowances from the government. Many of the chancery suits reference government allotments provided for wives. The bill for Harry C. Brown's case stated that he "was required to pay and did pay to said defendant as his wife the sum of fifteen dollars per month and to this sum the Government added the like sum of fifteen dollars, making the sum of thirty dollars per month." The suit states she received this allotment "as a provision for her maintenance and support as the wife of" Brown while he "was in the service of his Country." John Windsor stated that his "wife regularly received the Government allowance provided for the families of soldiers." Windsor never went overseas, but the government still supported his wife. While he "was in camp, during the war, the Government gave her money," because he was not at home to work and provide for her.⁵

Other individuals made extra arrangements to take care of their families. Cornelius A. Costley stated in his deposition that he provided for his wife "by allotment made to her, in the sum of \$25 per month, which is the usual allotment where there are no children." He also continued to say that he made his "insurance payable to her. That was \$2,000.00." Basil A. Brown explained that "he was loath to enter the military service since he did not want to leave his family but he avers that he felt it his duty to do so and that he made adequate preparation for her [his wife's] support while he was in the army." Before he left for war, he



Bill from Waters vs. Waters, Loudoun County Chancery Suit 1927-011

³ Mort Robert Mock vs. Ethel M. Mock, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1919-045; Cornelius A. Costley vs. Bernice Costley, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1920-040; John H. Waters vs. Annie J. Waters, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1927-011; John Windsor vs. Blanche J. Windsor, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1923-020.

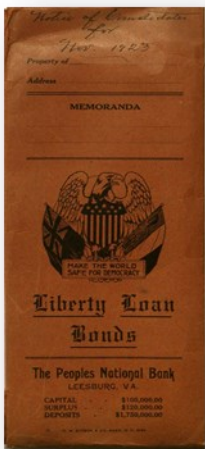
⁴ *Annual Report of the Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1920) 4-8.

⁵ *Annual Report of the Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1920) 4-8; *Selective Service Regulations* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1918) 378-396; Harry C. Brown vs. Erminta T. Brown, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1923-039; John Windsor vs. Blanche J. Windsor, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1923-020.

"arranged for her to have a home with Mr. S.S. Brown while the war was going on." The bill in Mort Robert Mock's case stated:

Desiring to provide for his said wife he took out an allotment for his said wife and that she received the full allotment as provided for under the War Risk Insurance Act and that he also took out an insurance policy with the government in the sum of \$10,000.00 for the benefit of his said wife in the event that he should be killed in action or die in the line of duty.⁶

In Mock's deposition he explained "I made her an allotment and she got thirty dollars a month, and I had my insurance payable to her, and a liberty bond which I took out of my pay." Under the War Risk Insurance Act, "men and women in the military and naval service were enabled to secure from \$1,000 to a maximum of \$10,000 life insurance, payable in the event of death or total permanent disability." Mort Robert Mock chose to take out the maximum amount of insurance to provide money to his wife in the event he became disabled by war, or died in the line of duty.⁷



Liberty Loan Bonds Envelope,
Loudoun County Misc. Papers

Absence put a strain on many relationships as men who went to war were in camp or in France for over a year. It is difficult to say that long term absences of the husbands at war could be the sole factor in the result of individual divorces, but the circumstance probably did not help their situations. Statements about relationships after soldiers returned from war included, "He perceived a growing coldness toward him in the affections of his said wife." Another explained "I had written that I was coming home. When I got there she had gone." Still another soldier received troubling letters while overseas which "indicated to him that she might not then have been conducting herself as a faithful wife should." In his conversation with his wife, she told him "'I am not an iron woman. I had to have somebody.' She said she had not been as bad as some of the other women, wives of soldiers; that she had only had two men." Other soldiers came home to find their wives had left their homes and sold their furniture. Some depositions included statements that upon asking the wife where the husband was, the wife stated that "he had been killed in the war in France." Whether a statement like this came from confusion, or a purposeful falsehood is unknown, though the husband claimed he had written to his wife several times while he was in the army to which he added, "but she never wrote me the whole time." These chancery suits are not indicative of all marital issues that could have resulted in divorce. Most of the chancery suits were filed by men, and the female perspective is often missing.⁸

Chancery suits can provide more insight into local men's experience of World War I. While actual combat experience is not referenced, more information about the domestic side of war is provided. The draft experience, individual convictions, the experience of members of the Local Draft Board, domestic issues, spousal support, and government allotments are a few of the details referenced in chancery suits. While the *Muster Roll in the War with Germany* can provide an official list of individuals who were drafted for World War I, chancery suits can provide additional information to give a different view of a soldier's experience.

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⁶Mort Robert Mock vs. Ethel M. Mock, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1919-045.

⁷Cornelius A. Costley vs. Bernice Costley, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1920-040; Basil A. Brown vs. Zula May Brown, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1922-016; Mort Robert Mock vs. Ethel M. Mock, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1919-045; *Annual Report of the Director of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance* (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1920) 4-8.

⁸John Windsor vs. Blanche J. Windsor, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1923-020; Harry C. Brown vs. Erminta T. Brown, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1923-039; Cornelius A. Costley vs. Bernice Costley, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1920-040; Mort Robert Mock vs. Ethel M. Mock, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1919-045; Basil A. Brown vs. Zula May Brown, Loudoun County Chancery Suits, 1922-016.



Tell us about Your "Little Gems" of Loudoun County History.

Go to www.loudoun.gov/Clerk/LittleGems and complete the "Little Gems" Form. Future editions of our newsletter will highlight a "Little Gem" submitted by our readers. So get researching, the next spotlight may be your discovery!

If only someone had invented a device on which we could call for help!

I think I had my map upside down.

"Where is Archives?"

When customers arrive at the Archives front counter the first thing they say is, "Do you know that you are hidden in the basement?"

Stay tuned Archives fans for future additions of "Little Gems." You never know where these Gentlemen's' adventures will take them next..



Oh, the crazy things I have seen... these guys will never find Archives.



A Poppy is for Remembrance

by: Sarah Markel ALA Dept. of Virginia
Poppy Chairman 2016-2017



In my role as a Historic Records Clerk I care for, preserve, and research court records from 1757 to today. As my colleagues and I conserve the court records we often find forgotten stories. We have military records spanning from the Revolutionary War to Current Conflicts. This year I completed indexing our three militia books and loose papers. This added 33,096 names to a searchable index previously not accessible. I was delighted that as soon as we placed the indexes up on line we had phone calls and e-mails from people saying that they were relatives of someone listed on the index and wanted to come see the records to learn more about their ancestors.

When I am not working at the Court House I spend a considerable amount of my free time volunteering with the American Legion Auxiliary. The mission of the American Legion Auxiliary is: "to support The American Legion and to honor the sacrifice of those who serve by enhancing the lives of our veterans, military, and their families, both at home and abroad. For God and Country, we advocate for veterans, educate our citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, good citizenship, peace and security."¹

This year I am serving as the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Virginia Poppy Chairman. In this role I travel all over the Commonwealth of Virginia raising awareness about the poppy and the programs of the American Legion Auxiliary. I have spoken at schools and various community events. Throughout my travels I am always delighted to see people's reaction when I tell them that in the Department of Virginia all of our crepe paper poppies are hand made by our veterans in Veterans Administration Hospitals. I tell students that this is a magical flower worn as a symbol of remembrance. Also, it is used to raise money for veterans. Most people are surprised to learn that 100% of all money raised through the distribution of poppies stays within the community.

"From the battlefields of World War I, weary soldiers brought home the memory of a barren landscape transformed by wild poppies, red as the blood that had soaked the soil. By that miracle of nature, the spirit of their lost comrades lived on. The poppy became a symbol of the sacrifice of lives in war and represented the hope that none had died in vain. The American Legion Auxiliary poppy has continued to bloom for the casualties of four wars, its petals of paper bound together for veterans by veterans, reminding America each year that the men and women who have served and died for their country deserve to be remembered."¹ Below are some other facts you may not have known about the poppy:

- * The red poppy came to symbolize the blood shed protecting America’s freedom following publication of the wartime poem, “In Flanders Fields,” written by Lt. Col. John McCrae, MD while serving on the front in World War I to honor soldiers killed in battle. (See end of newsletter for full poem)
- * The popularity of the red poppy as a memorial flower to those who sacrificed their lives in war began in November of 1918 when Miss Moina (pronounced mow-E-na) Michael was so moved by Col. McCrae’s poem that she bought a bouquet of poppies on impulse – all that New York City’s Wanamaker’s Department Store had – and handed them to businessmen meeting at the New York YMCA where she worked. She asked them to wear the poppy as a tribute to the fallen. World War I was over, but America’s sons would rest forever ‘in Flanders’ Fields.’ Later, she would spearhead a campaign that would result in the adoption of the poppy as the national symbol of sacrifice. In 1923, the poppy became the official flower of The American Legion Family in memory of the soldiers who fought on the battlefields during WWI.
- * Poppies are not sold by volunteers– they are “distributed” with request that a person receiving the poppy make a donation to the Poppy fund to support the Auxiliary’s veteran outreach programs.¹

Everyday, whether it be through my daily work or through my volunteering, I am reminded of the sacrifice our veterans have made to protect us and keep us safe. Some gave the ultimate sacrifice and left families behind to grieve. Others carry their wounds with them every day some visible and some not. I realize that I may never know the stories of all the men listed on the war memorial or in our records, but I do know that I can honor their memory everyday by supporting veterans and their families. I challenge you to do the same. When you see a veteran take a moment to thank them for their service. If you know of a deployed soldier take the time to reach out to their family and see if there is anything you can do to help. Often just knowing that there are caring neighbors ready to lend a hand can make all the difference.

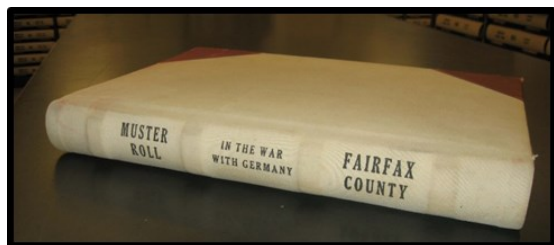
Memorial Day is just around the corner and many of us will have the day off from work. Please make this a day “on” and not a day “off.” Reach out to your community and find a way to give back. Help a neighbor carry groceries, help an elderly neighbor by offering to assist with yard work, wear your poppy, or maybe take flowers to a grave. Lets all honor the memory of those who gave so much for us by making Memorial Day a day of service.

1. American Legion Auxiliary National Website: <https://www.alaforveterans.org>



Moina Michael on a 1948 U.S. commemorative stamp
(Image from Wikipedia)

Fairfax County's World War I Muster Roll By Heather Bollinger, Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center



In honor of the centennial of the United States joining World War I, the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center staff is pleased to discuss some of its World War I-related holdings. The Historic Records Center is custodian of the several World War I-related documents, including the county's muster roll. Note that the ledger is identified as the Muster Roll "In the War with Germany." The muster rolls details the name, residence, induction date, and service number of the serviceman.

MUSTER ROLL - Fairfax COUNTY, VIRGINIA

IN THE WAR WITH GERMANY

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	REMARKS	SERVICE NUMBER	STATUS
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		51	496
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		52	497
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		53	498
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		54	499
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		55	500
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		56	501
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		57	502
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		58	503
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		59	504
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		60	505
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		61	506
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		62	507
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		63	508
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		64	509
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		65	510
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		66	511
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		67	512
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		68	513
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		69	514
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		70	515
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		71	516
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		72	517
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		73	518
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		74	519
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		75	520
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		76	521
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		77	522
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		78	523
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		79	524
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		80	525
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		81	526
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		82	527
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		83	528
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		84	529
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		85	530
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		86	531
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		87	532
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		88	533
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		89	534
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		90	535
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		91	536
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		92	537
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		93	538
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		94	539
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		95	540
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		96	541
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		97	542
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		98	543
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		99	544
Dinger, John George	Olney, Va. R. 3	Oct. 1, 1917		100	545

Surname "D" list from the Muster Roll

Why would the Circuit Court be keeper of this register?

By an Act of Assembly approved March 16, 1918, the Chairman of the county's Selective Service Board was required to "furnish to the clerk of that court...lists of the residents of such counties or cities, who, through the selective draft law have become members of the military forces of the United States." The Clerk, having received the list, "shall copy in a book or books provided for the purpose... [and] which book shall be properly indexed." Men who chose to volunteer would also be included. [1918 Virginia Acts of Assembly, Chapter 331]

The Chairman of Fairfax County's Selective Service Board was the Clerk of Court, F. D. Richardson.

On these pages, you can see three groups of names. The first set identifies those who were drafted through the Selective Service. It is important to note the "Remarks" section of each page, as it can provide more detailed information about the serviceman than just his service number. For example, on this page, you can see that John Daingerfield Addison was wounded in action, and James Walker Alexander deserted and was apprehended.

The second group of names includes those men who volunteered for service. The remarks state the branch of the military in which the men served.

Finally, the third set of names lists those men who belonged to the Students Army Training Corps (S. A. T. C.). This organization was operated by the United States War Department and trained male college students for military service, while ensuring they would remain enrolled in their college courses.

Above is index page "D" from the draft registration ledger.

Sadly, three soldiers have been identified as having died in the war:

- George Bryant Dyer was killed in action in November, 1918.
- Clarence Dawson died of disease at Camp Lee, the nearest training camp for Fairfax County soldiers called to fight. Dawson had been in the first county military draft.
- William I. Deardorff was mortally wounded in action in Mont Faucon, France, in October 1918. His body was returned to Virginia in 1921.

In 1926, a soldier's memorial honoring Fairfax County's World War I fallen was unveiled in front of the Fairfax County Courthouse (now known as the Historic Fairfax Courthouse).

The inscription reads:

A tribute to

The Men of Fairfax County

Who in the Spirit of Loyalty

Served Their Country in

The World War (1917-1918)



Fairfax County Residents who died during service in World War I

Brady, Thomas L.
Carper, James F.
Conic, Charles C.
Cook, Frank
Dawson, Clarence M.
Deardorff, William I.
Derr, Howard
Dove, Percy J.
Dyer, G.. Bryant
Fairfax, Willie R.
Fox, Corliss M.
Gunnell, Clarence
Hall, Caleb W.
Harris, John W.
Hatcher, Harry
Kendall, Robert N.

Lucas, Morris
Morgan, Arthur C.
McCroarty, Stephen P.
McIntosh, Warnie V.
Mitchell, John R.
Robinson, Perry
Rogers, Raymond
Sampson, William J.
Stambauch, Ralph
Tavener, Walter L.
Thompson, Joseph
Weaver, Richard
White, George
Williams, Daniel Webster

To sign up for the Fairfax Circuit Court Historic Records Center newsletter, *Found in the Archives*, visit the link below:

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/courts/circuit/historical_records.htm



In Flanders Fields

"In Flanders Fields" is a war poem in the form of a rondeau, written during the First World War by Canadian physician and Lt. Col. John McCrae. He was inspired to write it on May 3, 1915, after presiding over the funeral of friend and fellow soldier Alexis Helmer, who died during the Second Battle of Ypres.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

—Lt. Col. John McCrae

2017 PROGRAMS AND NEWSLETTERS

First Friday April 7, 2017-Over There: The Great War in Loudoun's Memory

(Joint Program with the Loudoun WWI Committee) April is the 100th anniversary of the United States entry into WWI. This exhibition will explore Loudoun's role in the war to end all wars.

First Friday June 2, 2017 – Preservation Act III

Our June 2016 Open House on the conservation of the court's historic documents was such a hit we brought it back! Learn how Loudoun's court papers have held up against time, history and the environment. The staff will discuss and demonstrate how the records are being preserved in the 21st century.

First Friday October 6, 2017-Rods, Links, and Poles: Historic Maps and Plats in the Court's Historic Records

View the Historic Records staff and volunteers' favorite maps and plats in the court's historic 18th and 19th century deed and chancery records. The Loudoun County Office of Mapping and Geographic Information will exhibit 21st century mapping technology and how it can be used in historic research.

Newsletters

Summer-July 2017 Fall-October 2017

All Open Houses will be held at: Court Complex 18 E. Market St. Leesburg Virginia



Save the Date! June 17, 2017
HISTORIC FAIRFAX COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Celebrate
FAIRFAX COUNTY'S 275TH
Birthday!

Saturday, June 17, 2017
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Historic Fairfax Courthouse

The day's events, which are free and open to the public, will include:

- Family-friendly activities
- Entertainment
- History Exhibits
- Living History
- Performances

...and more!

Visit www.Fairfax275.org for more information.

A Fairfax County Va. publication

To request reasonable ADA accommodations, call 703-324-5421 or 703-445-1186 (TTY).

Celebrate Fairfax County's 275th Anniversary June 17, 2015

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is pleased to partner once again with Fairfax County. Come out and see a display from Loudoun County, and learn about the county's formation from Fairfax County. Staff will be on hand to answer questions.

We hope to see you there!